USDA, SCS
Section II-E
Technical Guide
Areas 20,23,24,25,27

TIGHT SANDY LOAM
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE 31-44

Land Resource Area Rio Grande Plain

Location _____

Date 1/1/72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occurs on nearly level to gently sloping upland areas. Slopes usually range from 0 to 5 percent, but mostly less than 2 percent.

2. SOILS:

   a. The soils are deep with fine sandy loam surfaces and slowly permeable sandy clay loam and sandy clay subsoils. The fine sandy loam surface ranges from 8 to 16 inches thick. The soils are well drained, runoff is medium to slow and permeability is moderately slow to slow. The rapid permeability of the surface reduces runoff. This site tends to be droughty, but greens up rapidly after small rains.

   b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are:

      Delfina fine sandy loam
      Lozano fine sandy loam
      Miguel fine sandy loam
      Webb fine sandy loem
      Floresville fine sandy loam

   c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

   a. The climax plant community is an open grassland with scattered mesquite and other woody brush species breaking the monotony of the landscape. Mid grasses dominate the site. Climax forbs and legumes grow well on this site.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

Grasses	90%	Woody	5%	Forbs	5%
Little bluestem, Two&Four-flower trichloris	25	Texas kidneywood, Vine ephedra, Buemelia, Mesquite, Condalia, Spiny hackberry	5	Bush sunflower, Englemann daisy, Orange zexmenia, Perennial legumes	4
Feathery bluestem	10			Annual forbs	1
Tanglehead	5				
Arizona cottontop	5				
Sideoats grama	T				
Plains or spike bristlegrass	5				
Nash & hooded windmillgrass	10				
Pink pappusgrass	10				
Fringeleaf paspalum	T				
Slender grama	T				
Fall witchgrass, Plains lovegrass	5				
Slender grama, Threeawn	5				
Buffalograss & curly mesquite	10				

b. As retrogression occurs, mesquite, condalias, spiny hackberry and woody species form a moderate dense canopy. Common invaders to the site are broomweed, crotons, cactus, red grama, Texas grama, sandbur, tallowweed and lantana.

c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 2000 pounds per acre in low production years to 4800 pounds of air-dry vegetation per acre in high production years.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: This site is used by deer, dove, quail, non-game birds, javelina, small fur bearing animals and coyote and bobcat.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a.

Condition Class	Climax Vegetation	Ac/AU/Yearlong
Excellent	76-100	11-15
Good	51-75	14-20
Fair	26-50	19-25
Poor	0-25	25+

b. Introduced Grasses

Percent Ground Cover			
100-76	75-51	50-26	25-0
11-15	14-20	19-25	25+

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. For Cattle

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Little bluestem	Plains or Spike bristlegrass	Red grama
Two & Fourflower trichloris	Pink pappusgrass	Texas grama
Feathery bluestem	Nash & hooded windmillgrass	Red lovegrass
Tanglehead	Fringeleaf paspalum	Annual forbs
Arizona cottontop	Slender grama	Mesquite
Sideoats grama	Fall kidneywood	Condalia
Bush sunflower	Texas kidneywood	Spiny hackberry
Englemann daisy	Vine ephedra	Lime pricklyash
Plains lovegrass	Buemelia	Acacia
	Perennial legumes	
	Wrights threeawn	
	Hackberry	

b. For deer

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Most annual forbs	Blackbrush	Most grasses
Texas kidneywood	Spiny hackberry	Texas colubrina
Vine ephedra	Sedges	Pear (prickly)
Buemelia	Liveoak	Mesquite
Desert yaupon	Wolfberry	
Bush sunflower	Lime pricklyash	
Orange zexmenia		
Perennial legumes		
Schribner's panicum		
mast		
Hackberry		
Rattany		

1/ Definitions of terms and an explanation of interpretations is given on a separate page which is attached or submitted with each group of range site descriptions.

c. For Dove and Quail

Primary	Secondary	Low Value
Englemann daisy	Tallowweed	False indigo
Bush sunflower	Verbenas	Bitterweed
Orange zexmenia	Grass seed	Isocoma
Perennial legumes	Sedges	
Crotons		
Showy partridge-pea		
Ragweed		
Panicum grass seed		
Paspalum grass seed		
Silverleaf sunflower		
Hackberry mast		
Bristlegrass seed		
Broomweed		